

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 19983 222208Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 IO-13 /078 W

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R 222210Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3743

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 19983

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, XF, US, FR

SUBJ: FRENCH OFFICIAL PESSIMISTIC AFTER ISRAELI CABINET  
RESPONSE

1. FRENCH AND BRITISH EXPERTS HELD THEIR REGULAR  
BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST IN LONDON  
JUNE 21. THAT EVENING WE HAD OCCASION DISCUSS RECENT  
MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS WITH QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR  
MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS (SERVANT) WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE  
DISCUSSIONS. HE WAS STRONGLY OF THE VIEW THAT THE  
ISRAELI RESPONSE TO THE US QUESTIONS ON THE FUTURE OF  
THE WEST BANK AND GAZA WAS A MAJOR SETBACK TO PEACE  
NEGOTIATIONS. HE BELIEVES IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PREFER-  
ABLE TO HAVE HAD NO RESPONSE AT ALL.

2. SERVANT DESCRIBED THE RESPONSE AS A  
STEP BACK EVEN FROM THE FAULTY TWENTY-SIX POINT BEGIN  
PLAN. THAT DOCUMENT AT LEAST HAD SOME POSITIVE ASPECTS  
FROM THE ARAB POINT OF VIEW WITH THE FURTHER ADVANTAGE  
OF A DEGREE OF VAGUENESS ABOUT THE EVENTUAL STATUS OF  
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THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. EGYPT COULDNT ACCEPT IT AS  
A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS, BUT IT WAS SOMETHING TO  
TALK AROUND. NOW IT IS NO LONGER ON THE TABLE AND THE  
LATEST ISRAELI POSITION APPEARS TO LEAVE NO OPENING  
FOR FURTHER TALKS. HE SPECULATED THAT IN THIS LIGHT  
SADAT'S SPEECH SCHEDULED FOR JULY 22 MAY MARK A NEW  
TURNING POINT.

3. COMMENT: SERVANT WAS GIVING HIS PERSONAL VIEWS WHICH HE SAYS HE SHARED WITH THE BRITISH. SERVANT IS THE QUAIS MOST EXPERIENCED WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIAL DEALING WITH THE MIDDLE EAST AND HIS OPINIONS WILL HELP SHAPE THINKING AT THE TOP. WE RECOMMEND THAT FRENCH AMBASSADOR LABOULAYE BEGIVEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A HIGH-LEVEL BRIEFING ON WHERE WE GO FROM HERE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE FRENCH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN HELPFUL BY FOLLOWING OUR LEAD ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND WE INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO BY KEEPING THEM INFORMED.

HARTMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Draft Date:** 22 jun 1978  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**SAS ID:** 2247136  
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**Subject:** FRENCH OFFICIAL PESSIMISTIC AFTER ISRAELI CABINET RESPONSE  
**TAGS:** PEPR, XF, US, FR  
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